CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently amended) A digital camera having a CMOS image sensor (2) with a plurality of pixels each storing within an exposure time (B) a brightness-dependent charge which is outputted as a pixel signal under the control of a control device (8), and a correction device (6, 10) which, after a pixel RESET of the image sensor, forms the difference from first and second sampled values detected toward the onset and end of the exposure time for the pixel, and outputs the second sampled value reduced by the first sampled value as [[the]] a wanted signal, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the control device (8) delays the sampling for the first sampled value by a predetermined delay time (D) after RESET.

2. (Previously presented) A digital camera according to claim 1, wherein the delay time (D) corresponds to about 1 percent to 20 percent, preferably 2 percent to 10 percent, of the exposure time (B).

3. (Currently amended) A digital camera according to claim 1, wherein the first sampled value for ~~the particular pixels~~ a particular pixel is stored digitally in an image memory (10), and the stored, digital sampled value is subtracted digitally from [[the]] a second, digital sampled value.

4. (Currently amended) A digital camera ~~according to claim 1,~~ having a CMOS image sensor (2) with a plurality of pixels each storing within an exposure

time (B) a brightness-dependent charge which is outputted as a pixel signal under the control of a control device (8), and a correction device (6, 10) which, after a pixel RESET of the image sensor, forms the difference from first and second sampled values detected toward the onset and end of the exposure time for the pixel, and outputs the second sampled value reduced by the first sampled value as a wanted signal, wherein the control device (8) delays the sampling for the first sampled value by a predetermined delay time (D) after RESET, wherein a comparator device compares the second sampled value or the first sampled value with a threshold value (Th), and wherein, if the threshold value is exceeded, the first sampled value, preferably multiplied by a scaling factor, is outputted as the wanted signal.

5. (Original) A digital camera according to claim 4, characterized in that the following is outputted as the wanted signal in accordance with the brightness derived from the first and/or second sampled value:

a) in a low brightness range: the difference of the sampled values;

b) in a high brightness range: the value derived solely from the first sampled value; and

c) in a medium brightness range: a weighted mixed value obtained from the values according to a) and b).

6. (Previously presented) A digital camera according to claim 3, wherein a dark value offset memory (11) is provided, and an offset value belonging to a

particular pixel and prestored in the dark value offset memory (11) is subtracted from the first sampled value of said pixel.

7. (Previously presented) A method for controlling a CMOS image sensor (2) by the so-called CDS method wherein pixels of the image sensor sampled toward the onset and end of an exposure time (B) and a wanted signal is formed by subtracting the first sampled value from the second sampled value, wherein the first sampled value is obtained with usable image information after a predetermined delay time after RESET.

8. (Currently amended) A digital camera according to claim 2, wherein the first sampled value for ~~the particular pixels~~ a particular pixel is stored digitally in an image memory (10), and the stored, digital sampled value is subtracted digitally from [[the]] a second, digital sampled value.

9. (Currently amended) A digital camera ~~according to claim 2,~~ having a CMOS image sensor (2) with a plurality of pixels each storing within an exposure time (B) a brightness-dependent charge which is outputted as a pixel signal under the control of a control device (8), and a correction device (6, 10) which, after a pixel RESET of the image sensor, forms the difference from first and second sampled values detected toward the onset and end of the exposure time for the pixel, and outputs the second sampled value reduced by the first sampled value as a wanted signal, wherein the control device (8) delays the sampling for

the first sampled value by a predetermined delay time (D) after RESET, wherein the delay time (D) corresponds to about 1 percent to 20 percent, preferably 2 percent to 10 percent, of the exposure time (B), wherein a comparator device compares the second sampled value or the first sampled value with a threshold value (Th), and wherein, if the threshold value is exceeded, the first sampled value, preferably multiplied by a scaling factor, is outputted as the wanted signal.

10. (Currently amended) A digital camera ~~according to claim 3,~~ having a CMOS image sensor (2) with a plurality of pixels each storing within an exposure time (B) a brightness-dependent charge which is outputted as a pixel signal under the control of a control device (8), and a correction device (6, 10) which, after a pixel RESET of the image sensor, forms the difference from first and second sampled values detected toward the onset and end of the exposure time for the pixel, and outputs the second sampled value reduced by the first sampled value as a wanted signal, wherein the control device (8) delays the sampling for the first sampled value by a predetermined delay time (D) after RESET, wherein the first sampled value for a particular pixel is stored digitally in an image memory (10), and the stored, digital sampled value is subtracted digitally from a second, digital sampled value, wherein a comparator device compares the second sampled value or the first sampled value with a threshold value (Th), and wherein, if the threshold value is exceeded, the first sampled value, preferably multiplied by a scaling factor, is outputted as the wanted signal.

11. (Currently amended) A digital camera ~~according to claim 8,~~ having a CMOS image sensor (2) with a plurality of pixels each storing within an exposure time (B) a brightness-dependent charge which is outputted as a pixel signal under the control of a control device (8), and a correction device (6, 10) which, after a pixel RESET of the image sensor, forms the difference from first and second sampled values detected toward the onset and end of the exposure time for the pixel, and outputs the second sampled value reduced by the first sampled value as a wanted signal, wherein the control device (8) delays the sampling for the first sampled value by a predetermined delay time (D) after RESET, wherein the delay time (D) corresponds to about 1 percent to 20 percent, preferably 2 percent to 10 percent, of the exposure time (B), wherein the first sampled value for a particular pixel is stored digitally in an image memory (10), and the stored, digital sampled value is subtracted digitally from a second, digital sampled value, wherein a comparator device compares the second sampled value or the first sampled value with a threshold value (Th), and wherein, if the threshold value is exceeded, the first sampled value, preferably multiplied by a scaling factor, is outputted as the wanted signal.

12. (Previously presented) A digital camera according to claim 9, wherein the following is outputted as the wanted signal in accordance with the brightness derived from the first and/or second sampled value:

a) in a low brightness range: the difference of the sampled values;

b) in a high brightness range: the value derived solely from the first sampled value; and

c) in a medium brightness range: a weighted mixed value obtained from the values according to a) and b).

13. (Previously presented) A digital camera according to claim 10, wherein the following is outputted as the wanted signal in accordance with the brightness derived from the first and/or second sampled value:

a) in a low brightness range: the difference of the sampled values;

b) in a high brightness range: the value derived solely from the first sampled value; and

c) in a medium brightness range: a weighted mixed value obtained from the values according to a) and b).

14. (Previously presented) A digital camera according to claim 11, wherein the following is outputted as the wanted signal in accordance with the brightness derived from the first and/or second sampled value:

a) in a low brightness range: the difference of the sampled values;

b)in a high brightness range: the value derived solely from the first sampled value; and

c) in a medium brightness range: a weighted mixed value obtained from the values according to a) and b).

15. (Previously presented) A digital camera according to claim 4, wherein a dark value offset memory (11) is provided, and an offset value belonging to a particular pixel and prestored in the dark value offset memory (11) is subtracted from the first sampled value of said pixel.

16. (Previously presented) A digital camera according to claim 5, wherein a dark value offset memory (11) is provided, and an offset value belonging to a particular pixel and prestored in the dark value offset memory (11) is subtracted from the first sampled value of said pixel.

17. (Previously presented) A digital camera according to claim 9, wherein a dark value offset memory (11) is provided, and an offset value belonging to a particular pixel and prestored in the dark value offset memory (11) is subtracted from the first sampled value of said pixel.

18. (Previously presented) A digital camera according to claim 10, wherein a dark value offset memory (11) is provided, and an offset value belonging to a particular pixel and prestored in the dark value offset memory (11) is subtracted from the first sampled value of said pixel.

19. (Previously presented) A digital camera according to claim 11, wherein a dark value offset memory (11) is provided, and an offset value

belonging to a particular pixel and prestored in the dark value offset memory (11) is subtracted from the first sampled value of said pixel.

20. (Previously presented) A digital camera according to claim 12, wherein a dark value offset memory (11) is provided, and an offset value belonging to a particular pixel and prestored in the dark value offset memory (11) is subtracted from the first sampled value of said pixel.